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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The Government have considered the representations made by the Madras Tramway Workers' Association and the Madras Tramway Employees' Union for resumption of tram service; but they had to terminate the licence of the Madras Electric Tramways Company;

" (b) The Transport Commissioner has been instructed to absorb in his department as many ex-employees of the tramways as possible in vacancies in posts for which they may be suitable, excluding posts like those of clerks in which employees of the State Government discharged as a result of the partition could be employed. They are also being absorbed in the Railway Workshops and Integral Coach Factory, Perambur."

SRI A. RATNAM :—" ஸார், இதுவரையில் டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட் இலாகாவில் எத்தனை டிராம்வே தொழிலாளர்கள் வேலைக்கு அமர்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் ? ரயில்வேயில் எவ்வளவு பேர்கள் வேலையில் அமர்த்தப்பட்டிருக்கிறார்கள் ? மற்றும் இதர வகைகளில் எவ்வளவு பேர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது ? புதிய பஸ்கள் அதிகமாக பெருக்கியதன் காரணமாக டிராம்வேயை மீண்டும் நடத்தும் யோசனை கைவிடப்படுமா என்பதை அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I may give this information to the hon. Member which would explain the position. Regarding the absorption of ex-tramway workers in the Transport department of the Government of Madras, 149 have already been found fit for employment but only 27 have appeared for training and out of them 11 have been appointed up to date, and out of the 11 appointed, only 7 have joined. As regards the absorption in the Railway Workshops at Perambur, 173 ex-tramway workers have been selected for employment. Of these, 31 have already been absorbed. That is the position."

SRI M. KALYANASUNDRAM :—" டிரான்ஸ்போர்ட் டிபார்ட்மெண்ட் தேர்ந்து எடுக்கப்பட்டவர்களில் 11 பேர்களைத்தான் நியமித்திருக்கிறார்கள் என்று சொல்லப்படுகிறது. பாக்கிபேரை நியமிக்காததற்குக்காரணம் அவர்கள் வரமாட்டேன் என்கிறார்களா அல்லது காலி ஸ்தானம் ஏற்படவில்லை என்ற காரணமா ? "

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Even out of those 11 appointed, only 7 have joined. Perhaps some of the ex-tramway workers are not anxious to join the Government Transport department."

Amount of Government loan outstanding with the Ayanavaram Co-operative Milk Supply Union, Madras.

* 1113 Q.—SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state the total amount of Government loan outstanding and the amount of overdues on this account with the Ayanavaram Co-operative Milk Supply Union, Madras, so far?

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THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" On 1st February 1954, a sum of Rs. 1,41,780–7–11 was the total Government loan outstanding against the Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union and the amount of loan overdue on that date was Rs. 30,889–13–11."

Promulgation of section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code in Payyoli, North Malabar.

* 1114 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether an order under section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code was promulgated in Payyoli, North Malabar, on 19th March 1954 prohibiting public meetings in the place ; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) & (*b*) A statement[a] is laid on the table of the House."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Are the Government aware of the fact that it was only the Communist Party which published the notice first, fixing the meeting and it was only subsequently, the anti-Communist Front issued notice fixing their meeting at the same place? That being the case, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to state, why the Magistrate, instead of allowing the party which applied first to hold its meeting, prohibited all meetings? May I request the Government to issue an order so as to allow all political parties to hold their meetings without any interference from others? "

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Here was an imminent danger of breach of the peace because two parties wanted to hold a meeting at the same place and at the same time. An enquiry into which party wanted to hold the meeting first would have led to a breach of the peace and that is why an order under Section 144 was promulgated, and after that there was no trouble."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, the statement placed on the table of the House by the Hon. the Minister for Finance is as vague as possible and is also contrary to facts. Therefore, may I know from the Hon. Minister what he means by the words ' at the same time ' in line 5 of the memorandum placed on the table? Do they denote that the application for holding a meeting by the Anti-Communist Front or the announcement regarding the holding of the meeting by the Anti-Communist Front was made on the same day as that on which the Communist Party also announced their meeting? Also it is said in the memorandum that ' attempts were made to persuade the rival parties to have their meetings on different dates but without success '. May I know who made these attempts? " 11–50 a.m.

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[a] Printed as Appendix I on page 79 infra.